

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
FOI/PA  
DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET  
FOI/PA# 1455404-000

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## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date of transcription 07/16/02

[redacted] (Protect Identity), Date of Birth [redacted]  
[redacted] Social Security Account Number [redacted] home  
address [redacted] was  
interviewed at the United States Courthouse, Centre Street, New  
York, New York. Also present for the interview were [redacted]  
[redacted] Assistant United States Attorney (AUSA), Southern  
District of New York (SDNY), [redacted]  
of WINSTON & STRAWN, [redacted] After being advised  
of the identity of the interviewing agent and the nature of the  
interview, [redacted] provided the following information:

b5  
b6  
b7C  
b7Db5  
b6  
b7C  
b7DInvestigation on 07/15/02 at New York, New YorkFile # 272B-NY-275883 -144 Date dictated 07/16/02by SA [redacted]b6  
b7C

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## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date of transcription 02/21/03

[redacted] white male. Social Security Account Number [redacted]  
[redacted] date of birth: [redacted] home address [redacted]  
[redacted] telephone number [redacted]  
cellular phone number [redacted] was interviewed at the  
offices of the United States Attorney, Southern District of New  
York (SDNY). Also present during the interview was [redacted]  
Assistant United States Attorney, SDNY, and [redacted]  
attorney for [redacted] After being advised of the identity of the  
interviewing agent and the nature of the interview, [redacted]  
provided the following information:

b5  
b6  
b7Cb5  
b6  
b7CInvestigation on 02/19/03 at New York, New YorkFile # 272B-NY-275883 - 149 Date dictated 02/21/03by SA [redacted]b6  
b7C

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## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date of transcription 02/14/03

[redacted] Social Security Account number [redacted]  
[redacted] Date of Birth [redacted] home address [redacted]  
[redacted] telephone number [redacted]  
[redacted] was interviewed at her residence. After being advised of the identity of the interviewing agents and the nature of the interview, [redacted] provided the following information:

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[redacted] is currently self-employed as an independent media consultant. For several years [redacted]  
[redacted], a consulting firm run by [redacted]

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In or about the Spring of 1997, a "friend of a friend" of [redacted] mentioned [redacted] MERCATOR CORPORATION. [redacted] had inquired whether this person could recommend a media consulting firm to undertake a project in the Republic of Kazakhstan (ROK). This friend of a friend arranged a meeting between [redacted] and MERCATOR at MERCATOR's offices in New York City.

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At the meeting MERCATOR was represented by [redacted] THOMAS BOWERS. [redacted] observed that MERCATOR's office were fancy in terms of it's decor, which included marble restrooms and expensive art work.

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[redacted] explained that he was a personal advisor to [redacted] and MERCATOR were advising the ROK on oil transactions. However, [redacted] had been asked by [redacted] to hire a media consulting firm in order to assist [redacted] in creating a new independent television network in the ROK. [redacted] KHABAR, the ROK's state-owned all news television channel.

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b7C

[redacted] to put together a proposal for creating and developing the new independent television network, which was to become known as NTK. [redacted] put together a proposal, which included a business plan for NTK. [redacted]

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Investigation on 02/13/03 at Garrison, New York

File # 272B-NY-275883 -150 Date dictated 02/14/03

by SA [redacted]  
SA [redacted]b6  
b7C

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## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date of transcription 02/25/03

[redacted] (Protect Identity), Date of Birth [redacted]  
[redacted] Social Security Account Number [redacted] home  
address [redacted] was  
interviewed at the United States Courthouse, Centre Street, New  
York, New York. Also present for the interview were [redacted]  
[redacted] Assistant United States Attorney (AUSA), Southern  
District of New York (SDNY), and [redacted]  
of WINSTON & STRAWN, [redacted] After being advised  
of the identity of the interviewing agent and the nature of the  
interview, [redacted] provided the following information:

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b7Db5  
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b7DInvestigation on 02/25/03 at New York, New YorkFile # 272B-NY-275883 - 167 Date dictated 02/25/03by SA [redacted]b6  
b7C

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Continuation of FD-302 of [REDACTED], On 02/13/03, Page 3

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b7C

[REDACTED] overall impressions of MERCATOR were not favorable. [REDACTED] BOWERS were difficult to work with and often brusque. They were always distracted and running around with the oil deals in the ROK. It was [REDACTED] observation that MERCATOR's only interest in the NTK project was keeping [REDACTED] happy. [REDACTED] BOWERS seemed to have little if any interest in [REDACTED]. As an example, on two separate occasions MERCATOR failed to pick up [REDACTED] at the Almaty airport as they had promised upon her arrival in the ROK. Both times the flight arrived late at night, and [REDACTED] had to make her own arrangements. In addition BOWERS often called [REDACTED] late at night with an urgent need for [REDACTED] to prepare a document and fax it to the ROK.

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[REDACTED] fees for the project were paid by MERCATOR via wire transfer to [REDACTED] bank account. [REDACTED] was not aware of the source of the funds. MERCATOR's travel agent booked the flights to the ROK for both [REDACTED]. All told, [REDACTED] made four trips to the ROK on the NTK project. MERCATOR paid for the flights, and reimbursed [REDACTED] for the hotel bills.

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It was a struggle to get paid by MERCATOR because [REDACTED] BOWERS were always running around on some other matter. It was [REDACTED] assumption that the money paid to [REDACTED] by MERCATOR for the NTK project was a favor to [REDACTED]. It was [REDACTED] observation that [REDACTED] fees and expenses were a "drop in the bucket" compared to the money MERCATOR was making on the various oil deals on which they were advising the ROK.

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[REDACTED] conducted a training program for NTK managers in the ROK in March 1999. The curriculum for the training program was prepared by [REDACTED] and discussed with [REDACTED] and MERCATOR at MERCATOR's offices in New York. After the training program ended [REDACTED] told [REDACTED] that she wanted [REDACTED] to prepare a business plan for [REDACTED] and would get back to her with the details. [REDACTED] never called back, nor did anyone at MERCATOR. This concluded [REDACTED] involvement in NTK and the ROK as a whole.

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## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date of transcription 08/14/02

[redacted] (Protect Identity), Date of Birth [redacted]  
[redacted] Social Security Account Number [redacted] home  
address [redacted] was  
interviewed at the United States Courthouse, Centre Street, New  
York, New York. Also present for the interview were [redacted]  
[redacted] Assistant United States Attorney (AUSA), Southern  
District of New York (SDNY), and [redacted]  
of WINSTON & STRAWN, [redacted] After being advised  
of the identity of the interviewing agent and the nature of the  
interview, [redacted] provided the following information:

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b7DInvestigation on 08/14/02 at New York, New YorkFile # 272B-NY-275883 - 161 Date dictated 08/14/02by SA [redacted]b6  
b7C

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31 — NEW YORK	



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Continuation of FD-302 of [REDACTED], On 02/13/03, Page 2 b6 b7C

accepted the proposal and hired [REDACTED] as consultants on the project.

NTK was a broadcast channel in the ROK which operated initially using a UHF frequency. [REDACTED] was told by MERCATOR people, either [REDACTED] BOWERS, that NTK was owned by [REDACTED]. In addition, [REDACTED] held herself out as being [REDACTED] and carried herself as such. [REDACTED] was not aware of any other [REDACTED] of NTK. b6 b7C

When the project began [REDACTED] were instructed that all communication on the project had to go through MERCATOR first. For example, [REDACTED] had to contact MERCATOR's office in New York and/or Almaty in order to request a meeting or telephone call with [REDACTED]. No direct communication was permitted. b6 b7C

One of [REDACTED] selling points as a consultant was her experience in structuring the financing for new television networks such as NTK. [REDACTED] was surprised then when [REDACTED] BOWERS rejected her offers of assistance in this area. BOWERS told [REDACTED] not to worry about the financing, it was being handled by MERCATOR and [REDACTED]. b6 b7C

Over the next two to three years [REDACTED] assisted [REDACTED] in various aspects of the creation and development of NTK. [REDACTED] advised [REDACTED] on programming, advertising, accounting and other issues. b6 b7C

[REDACTED] was not involved in the acquisition of NTK's television broadcasting equipment. [REDACTED] was aware that NTK had purchased studio equipment with the assistance of a small California company called TIVIONICA. [REDACTED] had never heard of this company but came to learn that TIVIONICA was run by two men based in California who acted as middlemen and bought the studio equipment from a supplier in Russia. [REDACTED] thought this was an unusual arrangement, but was never told why this method of acquisition was used. She observed that the equipment appeared to be in good working order. b6 b7C